



# CERTIFICATE of RECOGNITION

*By virtue of the authority vested by the Constitution in the Governor of the Commonwealth of Virginia, there is hereby officially recognized:*

## **LATINO/HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH**

**WHEREAS**, Latinos/Hispanic Americans contribute to our Commonwealth's cultural diversity by influencing art, music and food in Virginia, and they contribute to the strength of our communities with their strong commitment to family, love of country and respect for others; and

**WHEREAS**, the Commonwealth of Virginia has a growing Latino/Hispanic population and we are proud of the many historic contributions this community has made to businesses, industries, schools, and the legal and political communities throughout our Commonwealth; and

**WHEREAS**, since 1968, by Joint Resolution of the United States Congress and by Presidential Proclamation, Latino/Hispanic heritage has been celebrated in the United States in recognition of the many contributions Latino/Hispanic people have made to our nation's history and culture; and

**WHEREAS**, the Latino/Hispanic American community is a collage of distinct groups, including people with roots in Central and South America, Mexico, the Caribbean and Spain, that enhance the quality of life in our great Commonwealth;

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, Mark R. Warner, do hereby recognize September 15 through October 15, 2002, as **LATINO/HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH** in the **COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA**, and I call this observance to the attention of all our citizens.



*Mark R. Warner*  
Governor

*Anita A. Rinker*  
Secretary of the Commonwealth